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DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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FRANK L. HOOGSMANAGER

SATURDAYJUNE 8, 1907

Mr. Smith's Good Ideas On Foliage

Mr. Z. K. Myers, City.

Dear Sir:—In response to the request for suggestions bearing upon the subject of city improvement I would state:

The work already done by the Improvement Committee has shown good results and it deserves the support and assistance of all citizens; the improvement in the care of sidewalks and gutters is manifest but more work in that direction seems to be needed. In any work of this kind the principal to be followed is "precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little there a little."

For further improving the appearance of the city nothing occurs to me of greater importance at the present time than work on the line of improving the appearance of premises along the streets and highways. In many parts of town and in many places the growth of trees, plants and shrubs in such as to detract very much from the appearance of those places.

Too many grounds and premises are so overgrown as to be mere jungles; trees, plants, shrubs and vines have been planted in such profusion and the growth has been so rank that aside from a certain kind of beauty of a jungle, the premises are unattractive. This crowding is probably due to several causes; first, when the trees or shrubs were planted they were small and did not seem to be too close together, and as they grew each had its own attraction and had caused effort, and there is almost always a disinclination to cut down or remove trees under such circumstances. Next, there is an erroneous belief which many people share that the more plants and shade one can have the cooler the house will be. Of course we all know that out in the open it is cooler in the shade of a tree when the sun is shining, but we do not live under the trees but in the house and very few trees actually shade the house but the thick growth of trees, shrubs and vines surrounding the houses shuts off the wind and prevents the circulation of air.

Were it not for the trade winds which blow such a large part of the year, life here would be very different and the effects of heat would be much greater.

Then also there is the sanitary phase of the question. I believe that the time will come when the public health authorities will have to take measures to cause the removal of much of the vegetation and foliage in certain parts of town. In cold countries frost is one of the important agents in destroying bacteria and disease germs. In tropical and sub-tropical countries sunshine accomplishes much the same purpose. But your committee is not dealing I suppose with the sanitary phase of the subject.

So far as the beauty of the town is concerned there would be great improvement if one many grounds the owners could be induced to cut out a large percentage of the shrubbery and trees. In the mountains and woods it is pleasant to come across a jungle and there is a certain beauty in it, but in town it is neither beautiful, healthful nor desirable.

Moreover, almost all trees and shrubs need to have room to grow to any degree of perfection. When crowded together their symmetry is destroyed and they are often forced out of shape. With fruit trees, such as bread-fruit, oranges, alligator pears, and in fact with almost all kinds of fruit trees it is impossible to obtain good results unless the trees have room to grow. And with fruit trees it is very important that they should be judiciously pruned and trained. The breadfruit is a beautiful tree when grown under favorable conditions, but most of the many breadfruit trees in Honolulu are illshaped, scrawny specimens. As such a tree grows it is very apt to branch out in one or perhaps two or three long slender branches, especially if it is surrounded with other trees and plants. But if it has room in which to grow and is topped from time to time and trimmed as circumstances may require, it will become a beautiful tree. So it is with the alligator pear, orange trees, kukui trees and many other trees and plants. I think that many of the grounds and premises in the newer parts of town in the Makiki District are much more attractive and pleasing than many of the premises in the center and valley part of town where there are uncared for masses of vegetation.

Besides the crowding together of trees and plants by far too great a proportion of those growing in Honolulu are not fruit trees but are so-called "ornamental trees." The truth is that many of the fruit trees are more ornamental than the other kind if grown under proper conditions and with a little care. If one-half or one-third of the trees in Honolulu were fruit trees with room to grow in fruit would be both abundant and cheap.

If the committee can do something along the lines above indicated, I believe it will result in greatly improving the beauty of Honolulu.

Yours sincerely,

W. O. SMITH.

Honolulu, June 6, 1907.

Federal Girth On Railroads

Officials and others who have followed the agitation for federal regulation of railroads are now marveling at the amazing change in the attitude of the railroads themselves toward that policy. A little more than two years ago they resisted with all their might suggestions of the mildest form of governmental regulation. Now they are appealing practically for governmental control.

What has brought this change is just what was predicted when the railroads first bucked at the cinching of the federal girth; they were told then that unless they assented to reasonable correction of abuses alleged by the public a sentiment would be aroused in the nation which would bring more radical action. President Mellen of the New York, New Haven and Hartford saw that argument and yielded to it two years ago. The late President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania joined him. President Stickney of the Chicago and Great Western was an enthusiastic supporter of the idea, and James J. Hill recognized its force.

It was admission of that contention that resulted in the enactment of the federal railroad rate law. Without the submission, dogged though it was, of the great railroad systems, Congress would still be struggling over the question. But the submission came too late. The damage had already been done. A ball had been started a-rolling, which gath-

UNHAPPY SOULS ARE FREED OF TROUBLE

THE DIVORCE COURT IS DOING A GOOD BUSINESS—JUDGE BUSY WITH AX.

The divorce mill grinds exceedingly busy these days. This morning Judge Robinson was busy wielding the judicial ax, to sever some matrimonial knots. He handles these matrimonial tangles like Alexander the Great did the Gordian Knot. The judge hears some evidence, sizes up the proposition and then slash, and two unhappy souls are freed and the ballist calls for more. Isabella Salamanca was granted a divorce from Lazar today on the grounds of adultery. They say Lazar's conduct was highly improper.

Kahale Limapehu was also granted a divorce from John Limapehu on the grounds of cruelty. John seems to have also imbibed. She was awarded the custody of the child.

Kahalaonui Keola was granted a divorce from her husband because he deserted her.

Judge Robinson today quashed the summons in the divorce suit of Mabel Caroleo against Manuel. Manuel did not like the idea of paying temporary alimony.

Judge Robinson today confirmed the sale of property made by the commissioner in the foreclosure proceedings of August Dreier vs. J. D. Holt, et al. The commissioner was also awarded a fee of \$350.

F. Strauch has brought a foreclosure suit against Carl Beddaky, to recover on a 1 per cent a month note for \$1,023.50 given on March 24, 1902.

The plaintiff in the suit of Hoopii Wire vs. the Waiwala Agricultural Co. Ltd., et al, has filed exceptions to the recent adverse verdict in the Circuit Court.

The trial of the suit of H. T. Mills vs. H. M. Ayres, editor, proprietor, etc., of the Referee, defendant, and E. O. Hall and Sons, garnishee, was continued until September 4, by stipulation.

Lam Man Ben today filed his answer to the complaint in the trespass action brought by Chung Lum, Lam denies every allegation.

Receipts of the three heirs to the estate of Kaili Kakoi have been filed by A. G. M. Robertson. Each heir got \$50.97.

H. Hackfeld and Company have begun foreclosure proceedings against M. Camara, et al.

ANCHOR FOULS OLD WRECK. SAN FRANCISCO, June 1.—Captain R. Dabel of the schooner Aloha reports to the branch hydrographic office that at 1 p. m. on May 29th, when getting his vessel under way from an anchorage 400 feet south (magnetic) from the nun buoy marking the 4-4 fathom spot off Steuart-street wharf, he found his anchor foul of the head gear, fore-stays, knight heads, etc., of the wreck of the ship May Flint, which vessel sank in this locality several years ago. Mariners are warned against anchoring in this locality.

"SQUAWKING" MACHINES TO GO.

No more will the wheeze of the festive phonograph be heard in saloon halls. The decision by the Liquor License Commission Thursday that no music would be permitted in saloons, includes phonographs. The result is that the various resorts on Nuuanu street and elsewhere in the city will probably have to discontinue their daily music. This regulation will not apply to hotels and restaurants however.

SORRY TO LOSE HIM.

In securing the services of Editor Henshall of the Hawaii Herald, the Hawaiian Star gets a newspaperman who knows the business thoroughly. All who know Mr. Henshall will regret that he will soon have to leave us.—A. Setta, H.Ho.

ered such momentum that it got clear away and has gone smashing through the vested interests, leaving havoc in its path.

The crusade for governmental control was taken up in the states. Every ambitious politician found means at hand to play to popular clamor and go after the railroads. They saw the great popularity which President Roosevelt had attained by his demand for sane and safe regulation and they proceeded to go him one better. They reduced fares, lowered freight rates, penalized roads for detention of cars and imposed many kinds of limitations upon traffic within the states.

These efforts were aided by existing conditions that rendered public sentiment responsible to attacks on the railroads. This was particularly the case in the west and northwest and in the south. There was great congestion of traffic, due to the marvelous prosperity of the country and the overcrowding of the roads.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

The shooting of the American sailors by the Cuban police creates an embarrassing situation. If worst comes to worst, Secretary Taft will have to apologize to himself—Philadelphia North American.

Schwab says the recent slump in Wall street served to bring about a healthy check. Evidently Mr. Schwab was shot in several lines that were affected.—The Chicago Record-Herald.

Mr. Carnegie is reported to be suffering from a cold 'caught by sitting

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I am convinced that President Roosevelt is sincere in his declaration that he does not want to be a candidate again, but—Congressman Littlefield. What the President said was not "I do not want it," but "I will not take it."—New York Sun.

Speaking of fame, the man who knocks a home run for the home team will now corral a large per cent of the visible supply.—Topeka Journal.

Governor Hughes is being offered all sorts of inducements to try a few presidential bees in his bonnet.—Baltimore Sun.

The world's all right; only the chaps who want the world are grumbling.—Atlanta Constitution.

Neither Foraker nor Taft was a delegate to the peace conference.—Dayton News.

STRENUOUS REMEDY.

"And you have to get a new rain barrel every season?" asked the windmill salesman in surprise.

"Every spring," drawled Farmer Hardapple.

"But what becomes of the old one?"

"Oh, I wear out all the staves on the boys when they begin to lase around with the spring fever."

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